Canis
-THE SPEAKER-

Author: ZAKK

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bunny
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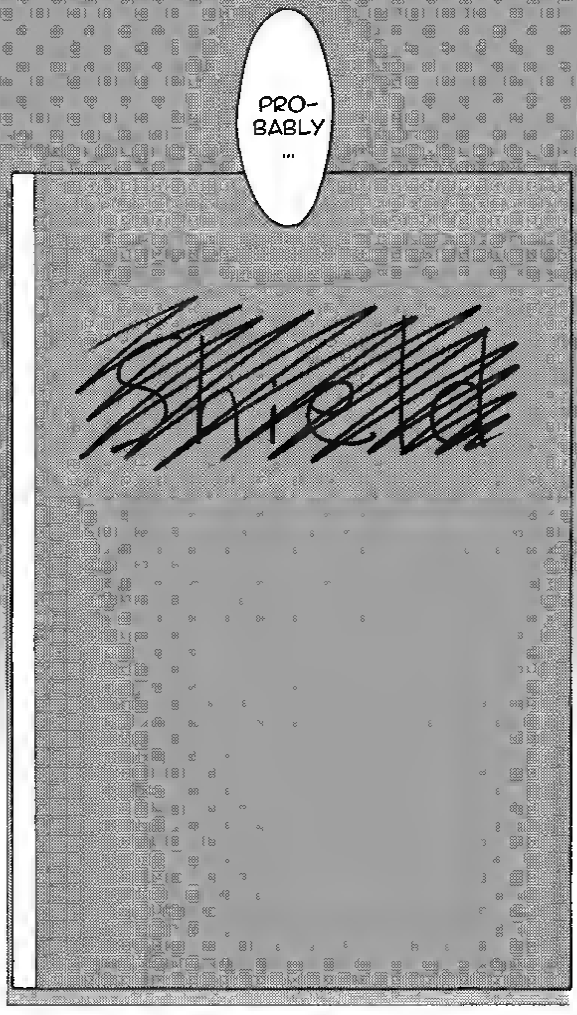
WE CAN'T TELL ANYONE ABOUT WHAT WE SAW TODAY.
FORGET ALL ABOUT THEM.
WE ABSO-LUTELY CAN'T RE-MEMBER.
ETHAN AND CARLOS ...
WHAT ABOUT COLLIN ...
.....
COLLIN AND...

LET'S BEHAVE.
UNTIL WE BECOME ADULTS...
AND THE THREE OF US LEAVE THIS PLACE ...
FWUMP
Aw man!
I WAS DEAD ASLEEP TILL MORNING...
AND WHEN I WOKE UP I COMPLETELY FORGOT WHAT I DREAMT ABOUT!

I FORGOT TOO.
THAT SHOULD BE...
GOOD ENOUGH.
YES ...
THAT'S HOW IT SHOULD GO
BUT...
I BET IT'S SOMETHING WE ARE BETTER OFF NOT KNOWING
I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT WHAT WE SAW...



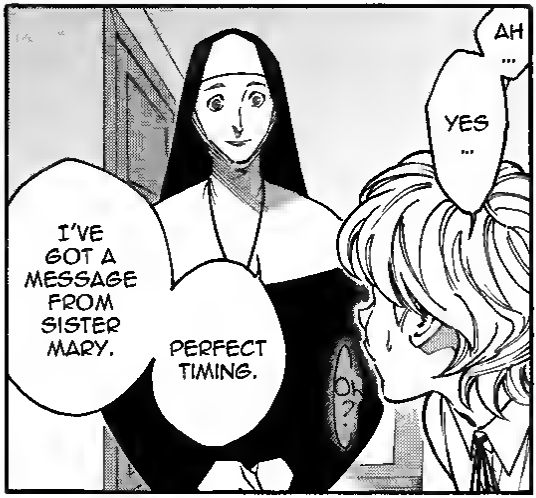
CANIS THE SPEAKER

Chapter.3

ZAKK

LAST TIME

GOOD FRIENDS HAROLD, SAMUEL, AND TADANOBU SHARE A ROOM IN AN ORPHANAGE. SET OFF BY A FORGOTTEN PENCIL, THE THREE TRY TO SOLVE THE MYSTERY OF "THE KIDS WITHOUT A GOODBYE PARTY," BUT COME ACROSS THE ORPHANAGE'S HORRIBLE SECRET. THEY ARE TRYING HARD TO FORGET EVERYTHING IN ORDER TO SAVE THEMSELVES, BUT...?

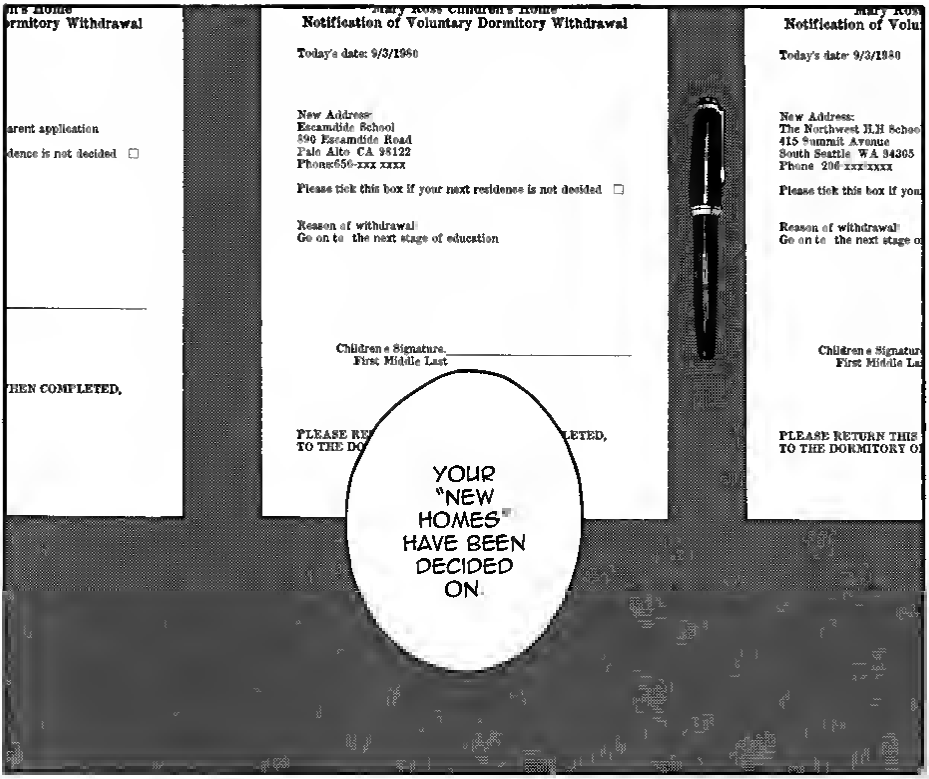

I'VE GOT A MESSAGE FROM SISTER MARY.
PERFECT TIMING.
AH...
YES...

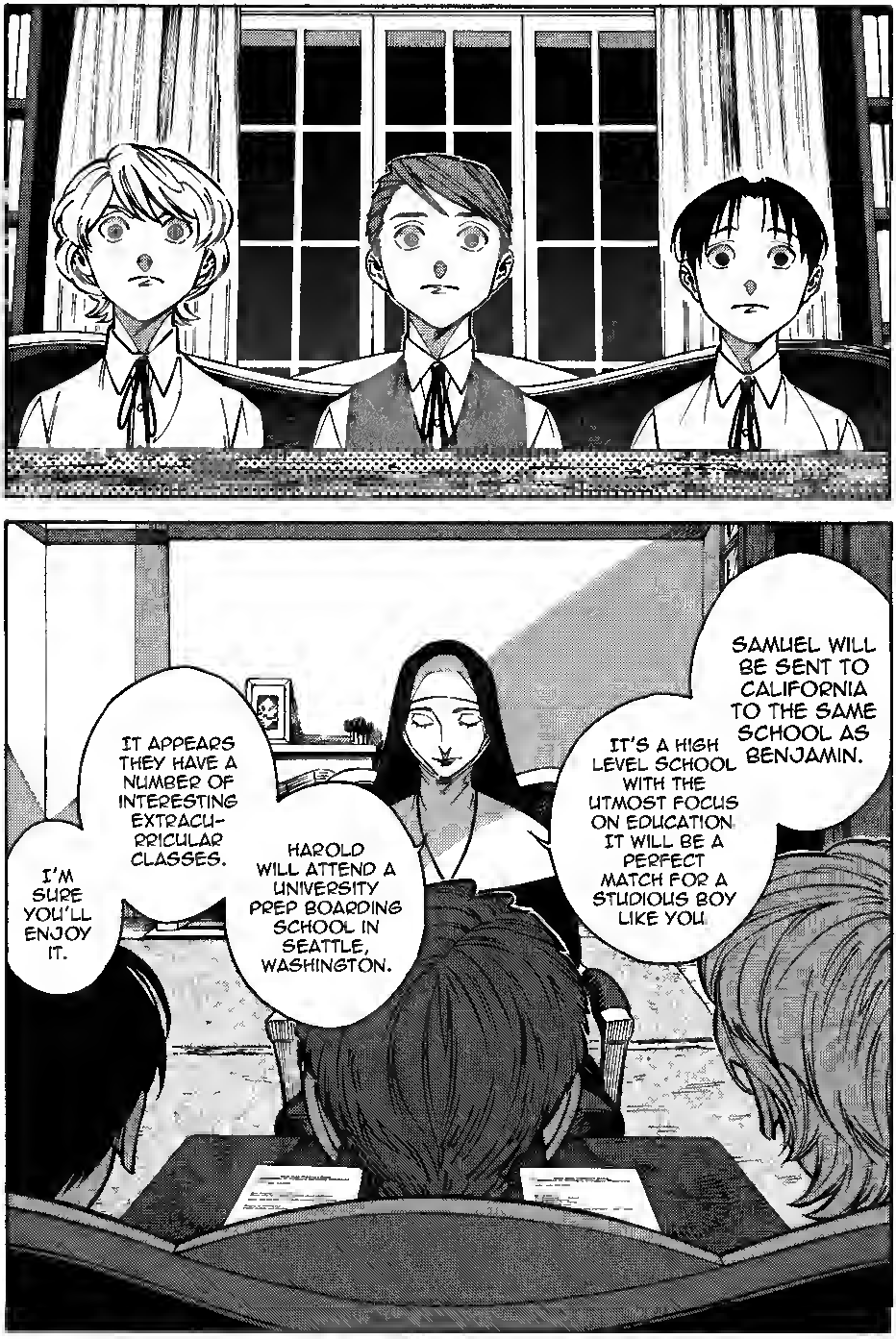
!
SURPRISE
OH, HAROLD.
YOU'RE ALONE TODAY?

SHE WANTS YOU AND YOUR FELLOW ROOM-MATES, SAMUEL AND TADANOBU, TO STOP BY HER ROOM AFTER DINNER.
IT SEEMS SHE HAS SOMETHING IMPORTANT TO DISCUSS WITH YOU.

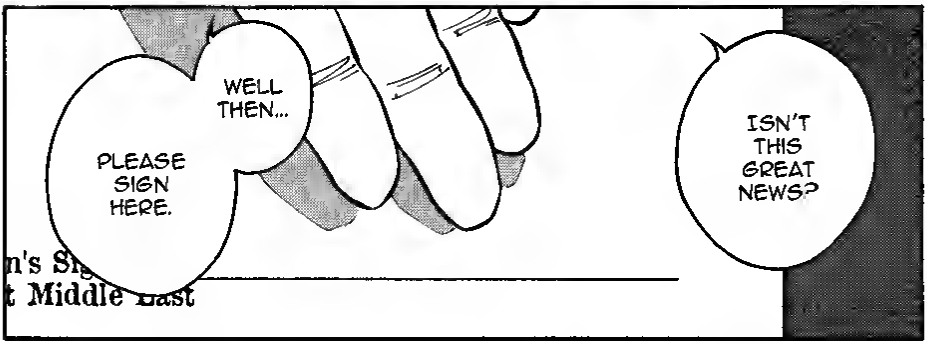
WHAT COULD THIS IMPORTANT DISCUSSION BE?
.....
NOOBUH
We get it!
We
UMM
THAT IS..
JUST MAYBE ...
OKAY ...
DO YOU HAVE A PLAN?
WHATEVER IT IS, I'LL BE THE ONE TO TALK WITH HER.
YOU TWO MAKE SURE NOT TO INTERFERE.

I PLAN ON USING "CHILDISH DEMANDS" AS A WEAPON TO THE BEST OF MY ABILITY.
THEY ARE ADULTS...
AND WE ARE CHIL-DREN ...

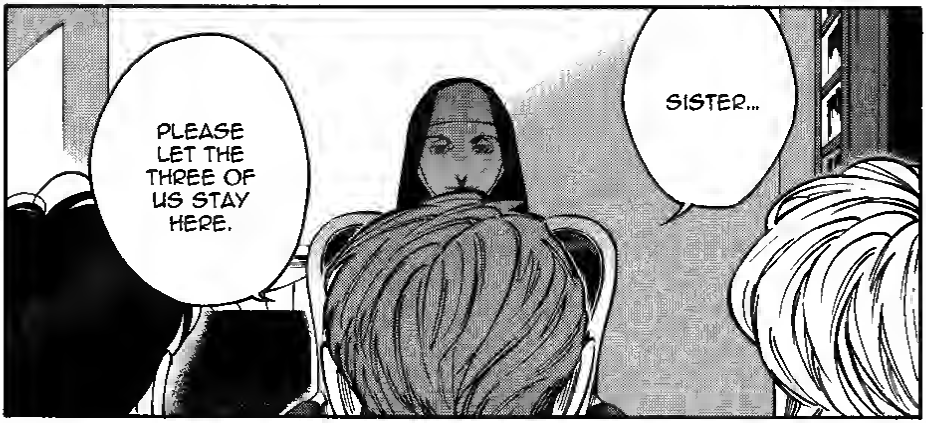

Notification of Voluntary Dormitory Withdrawal
Today's date: 9/3/1980
New Address:
Escamdido School
890 Escamdido Road
Palo Alto CA 98122
Phone:656-xxx xxxx
Please tick this box if your next residence is not decided ☐
Reason of withdrawal:
Go on to the next stage of education
Children e Signature.
First Middle Last
Notification of Volu
Today's date: 9/3/1980
New Address:
The Northwest H.S School
415 Summit Avenue
South Seattle WA 98305
Phone 206 xxx-xxxx
Please tick this box if you
Reason of withdrawal:
Go on to the next stage o
Children e Signatur
First Middle La
PLEASE RETURN THIS
TO THE DORMITORY O
YOUR "NEW HOMES" HAVE BEEN DECIDED ON.

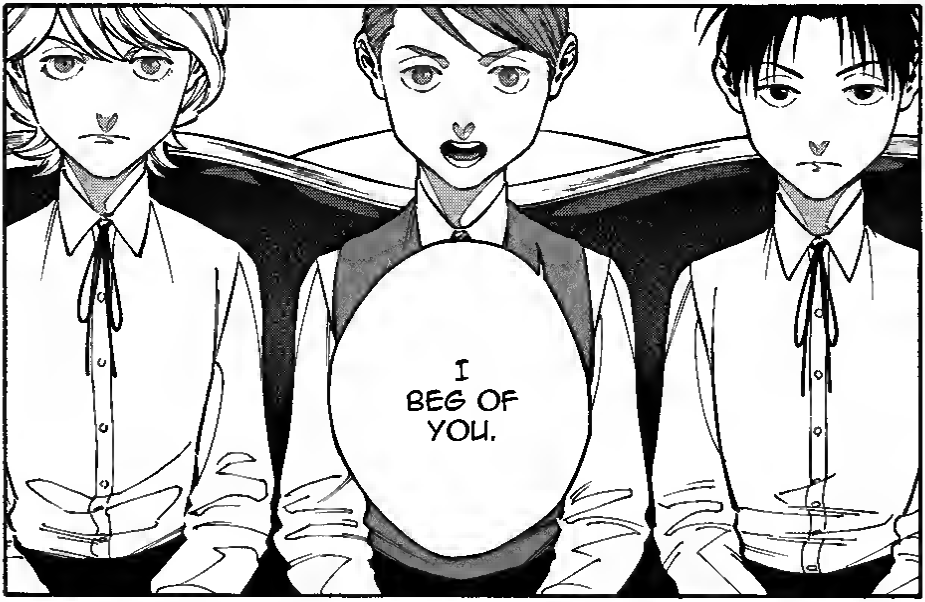

I'M SURE YOU'LL ENJOY IT.
IT APPEARS THEY HAVE A NUMBER OF INTERESTING EXTRACU-RRICULAR CLASSES.
HAROLD WILL ATTEND A UNIVERSITY PREP BOARDING SCHOOL IN SEATTLE, WASHINGTON.
IT'S A HIGH LEVEL SCHOOL WITH THE UTMOST FOCUS ON EDUCATION. IT WILL BE A PERFECT MATCH FOR A STUDIOUS BOY LIKE YOU.
SAMUEL WILL BE SENT TO CALIFORNIA TO THE SAME SCHOOL AS BENJAMIN.

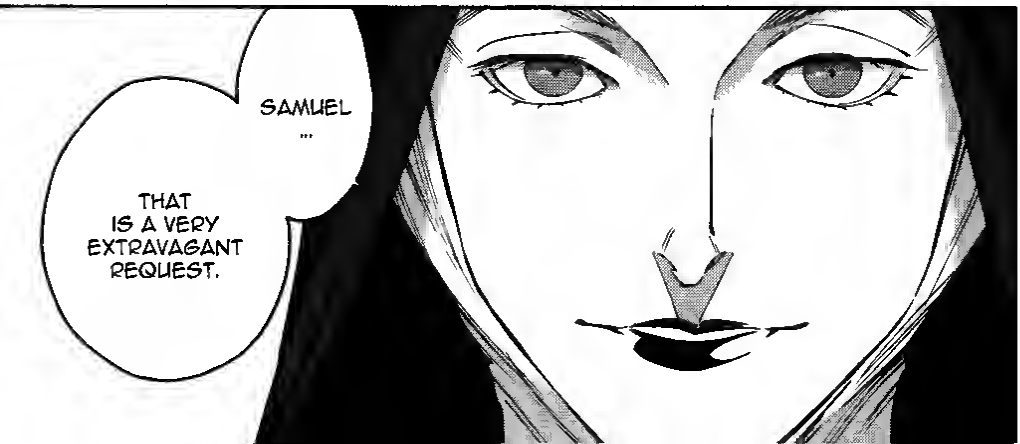
THERE IS A FAMILY INTERESTED IN ADOPTING HIM.
THEY WILL COME VISIT HIM AT A LATER TIME.
EH?
IN TADANOBU'S CASE...

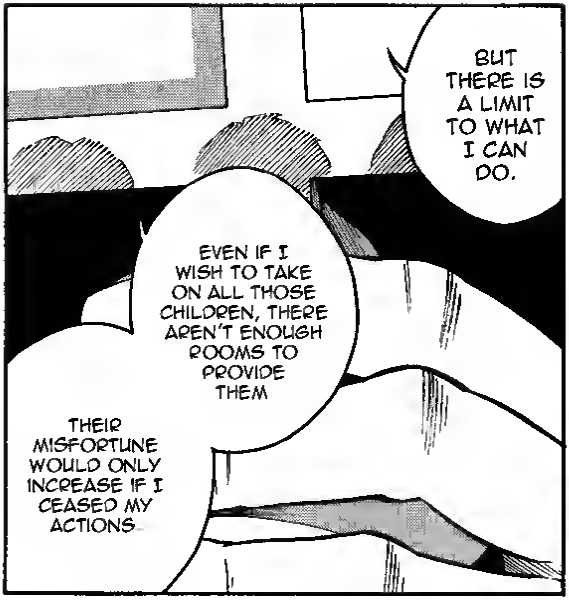

WELL THEN...
PLEASE SIGN HERE.
ISN'T THIS GREAT NEWS?

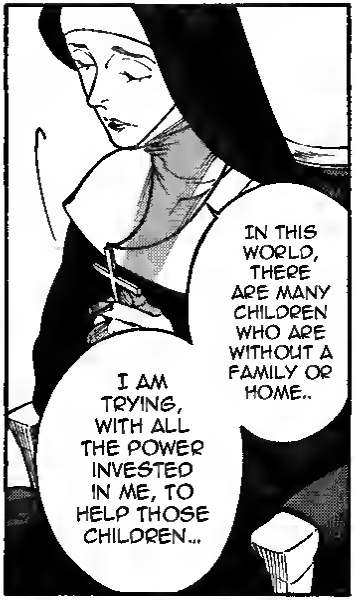
WE DON'T WANT A "NEW HOME".

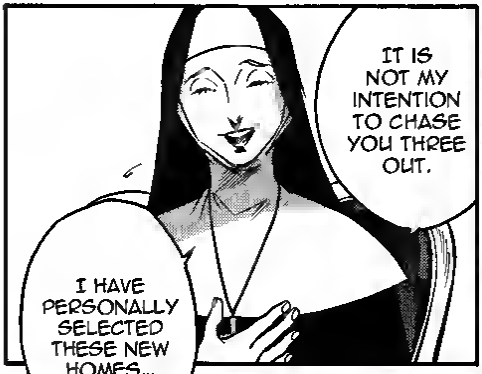

PLEASE LET THE THREE OF US STAY HERE.
SISTER...


I BEG OF YOU.


SAMUEL ...
THAT IS A VERY EXTRAVAGANT REQUEST.

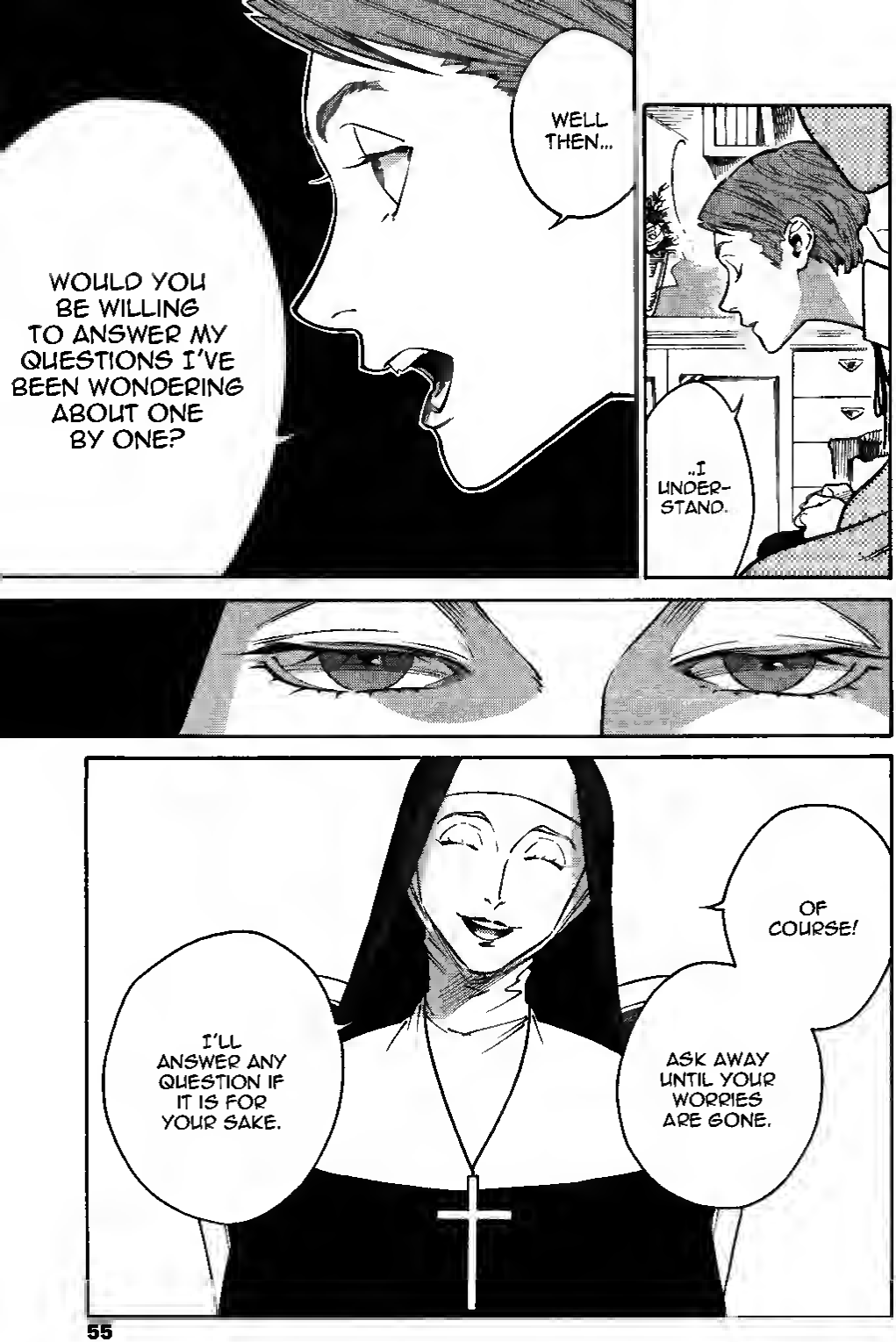

BUT THERE IS A LIMIT TO WHAT I CAN DO.
EVEN IF I WISH TO TAKE ON ALL THOSE CHILDREN, THERE AREN'T ENOUGH ROOMS TO PROVIDE THEM
THEIR MISFORTUNE WOULD ONLY INCREASE IF I CEASED MY ACTIONS


IN THIS WORLD, THERE ARE MANY CHILDREN WHO ARE WITHOUT A FAMILY OR HOME..
I AM TRYING, WITH ALL THE POWER INVESTED IN ME, TO HELP THOSE CHILDREN...

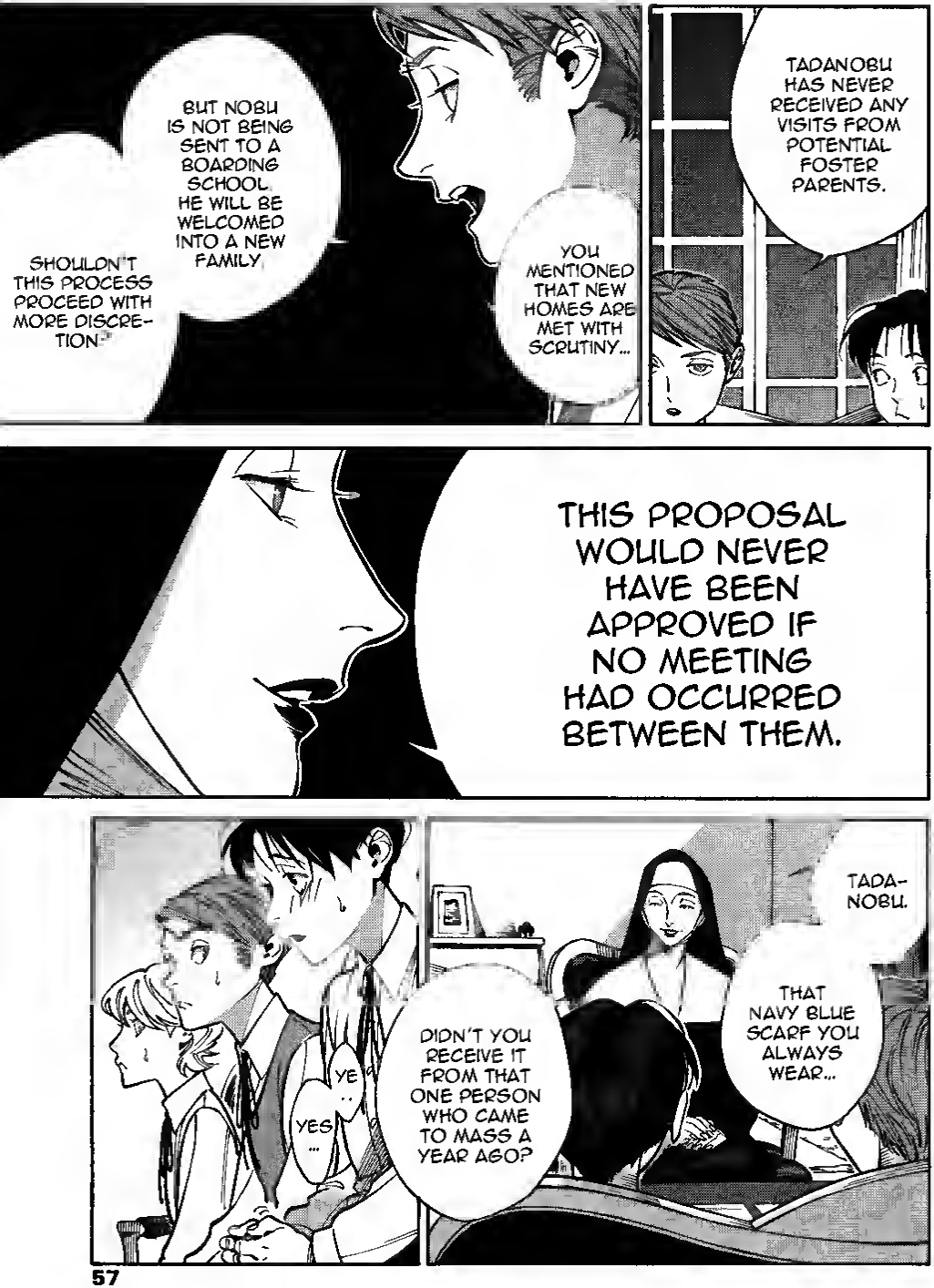

IT IS NOT MY INTENTION TO CHASE YOU THREE OUT.
I HAVE PERSONALLY SELECTED THESE NEW HOMES...

SO PLEASE DO NOT WORRY.

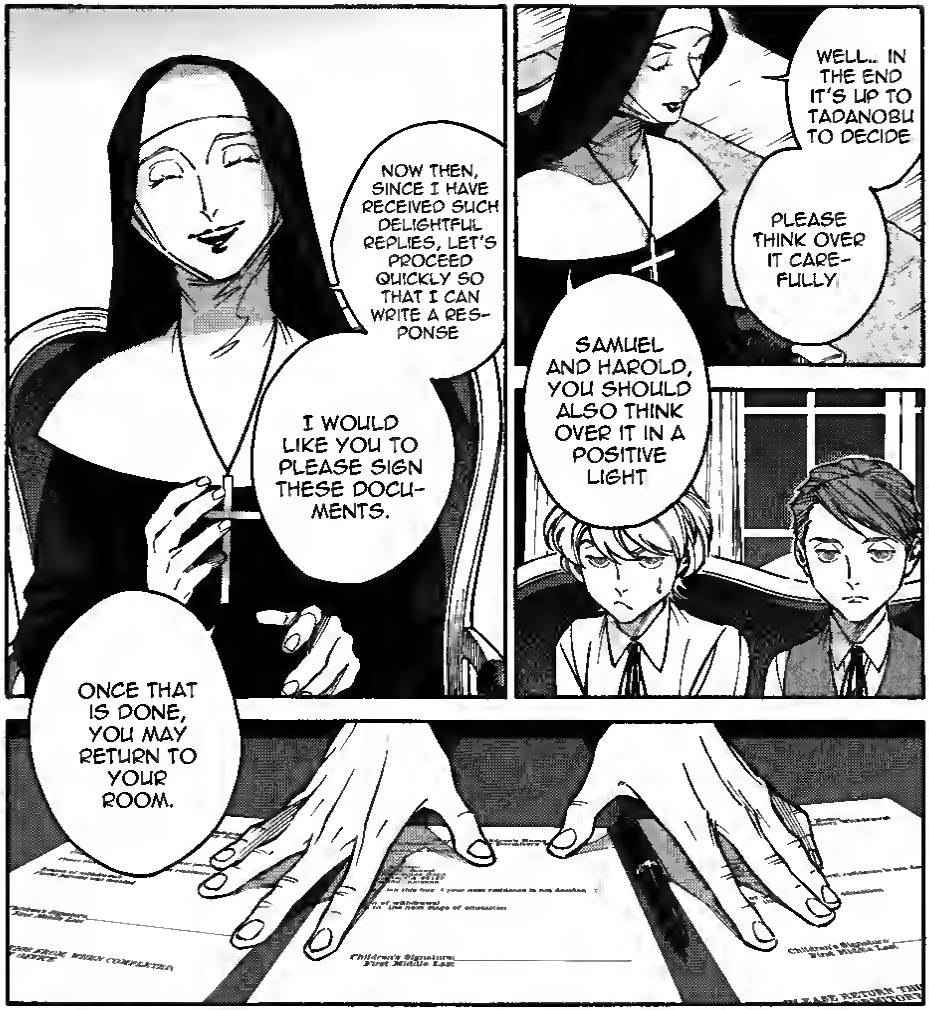
IN ORDER TO PREVENT THAT...
I MAKE IT MY GOAL TO FIND "NEW HOMES" FOR ALL THE RESIDENTS...
AND GIVE THESE HOMELESS CHILDREN A PLACE TO LIVE.


WELL THEN...
WOULD YOU BE WILLING TO ANSWER MY QUESTIONS I'VE BEEN WONDERING ABOUT ONE BY ONE?
..I UNDER-STAND.
OF COURSE!
I'LL ANSWER ANY QUESTION IF IT IS FOR YOUR SAKE.
ASK AWAY UNTIL YOUR WORRIES ARE GONE.

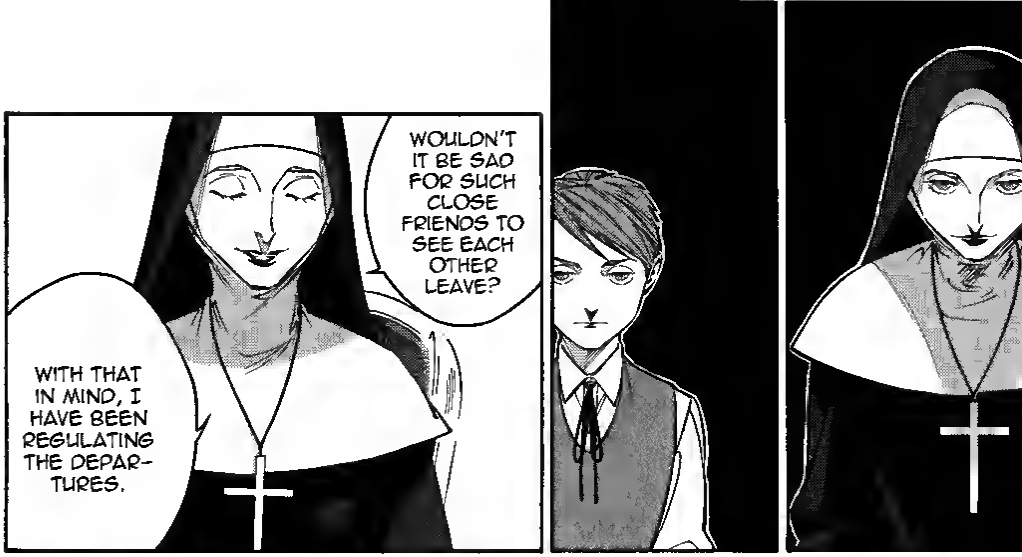
IT DID NOT HAPPEN SUDDENLY THE DECISION HAS BEEN MADE SINCE LONG BEFORE.
WHY WERE OUR "NEW HOMES" DECIDED UPON SO SUDDENLY?
WE PRESENT A PROPOSAL TO THOSE PLACES THAT HAVE BEEN PROVEN TO BE SAFE AND TRUSTWORTHY.
AFTER MUCH SCRUTINY ...
WE VISIT PROSPECTIVE HOMES PERSONALLY TO FIND SUITABLE LOCATIONS.
WITH THE BRIGHT FUTURE OF EVERY CHILD IN THIS FACILITY IN MIND...
NOW IS THE BEST TIME FOR YOU THREE TO MOVE ON.
I BELIEVE...

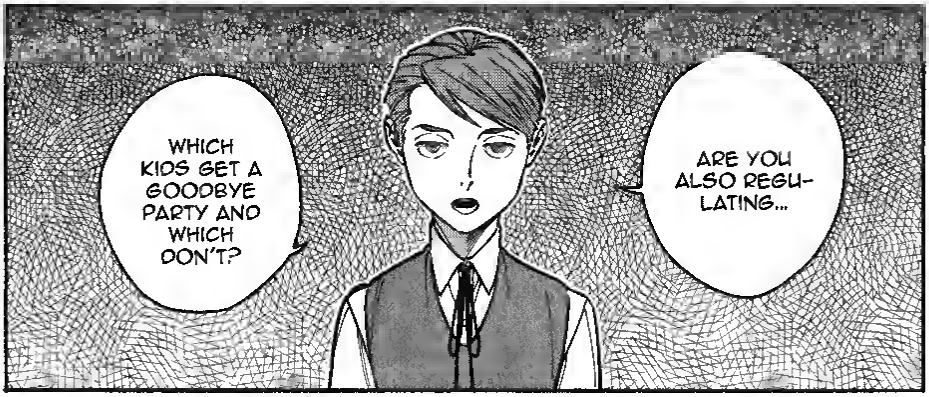

SHOULDN'T THIS PROCESS PROCEED WITH MORE DISCRETION-"
BUT NOBU IS NOT BEING SENT TO A BOARDING SCHOOL. HE WILL BE WELCOMED INTO A NEW FAMILY.
YOU MENTIONED THAT NEW HOMES ARE MET WITH SCRUTINY...
TADANOBU HAS NEVER RECEIVED ANY VISITS FROM POTENTIAL FOSTER PARENTS.
THIS PROPOSAL WOULD NEVER HAVE BEEN APPROVED IF NO MEETING HAD OCCURRED BETWEEN THEM.
YES...
YE..
DIDN'T YOU RECEIVE IT FROM THAT ONE PERSON WHO CAME TO MASS A YEAR AGO?
THAT NAVY BLUE SCARF YOU ALWAYS WEAR...
TADA-NOBU.

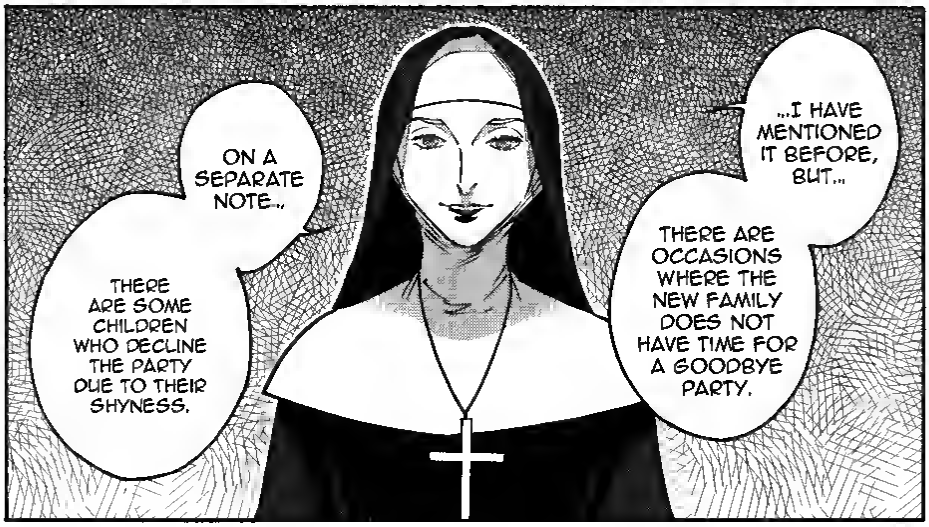
NOBU!
ERR ...
UMM
DON'T YOU THINK YOU WOULD BE ABLE TO GET ALONG WITH MS. TERRA?
SHE ASKED US IF IT WOULD BE A SUITABLE MATCH.
AND SHE HAPPENED TO TAKE A LIKING TO YOU.
THAT PERSON GOES BY THE NAME MS. TERRA...
...
MMM'H
...
shut

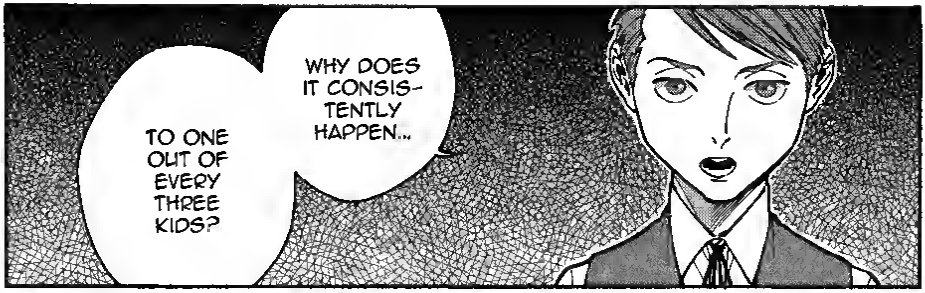

NOW THEN, SINCE I HAVE RECEIVED SUCH DELIGHTFUL REPLIES, LET'S PROCEED QUICKLY SO THAT I CAN WRITE A RESPONSE
I WOULD LIKE YOU TO PLEASE SIGN THESE DOCUMENTS.
ONCE THAT IS DONE, YOU MAY RETURN TO YOUR ROOM.
WELL... IN THE END IT'S UP TO TADANOBU TO DECIDE
PLEASE THINK OVER IT CAREFULLY
SAMUEL AND HAROLD, YOU SHOULD ALSO THINK OVER IT IN A POSITIVE LIGHT

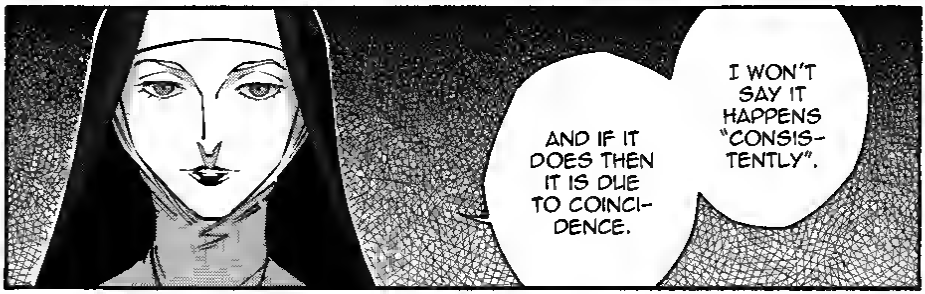
WHY DO THE THREE PEOPLE SHARING THE SAME ROOM LEAVE AT THE SAME TIME?

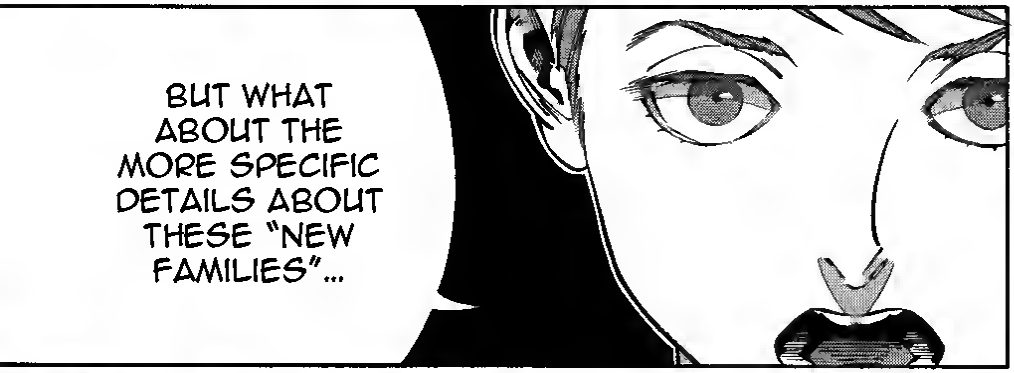

WOULDN'T IT BE SAD FOR SUCH CLOSE FRIENDS TO SEE EACH OTHER LEAVE?
WITH THAT IN MIND, I HAVE BEEN REGULATING THE DEPARTURES.

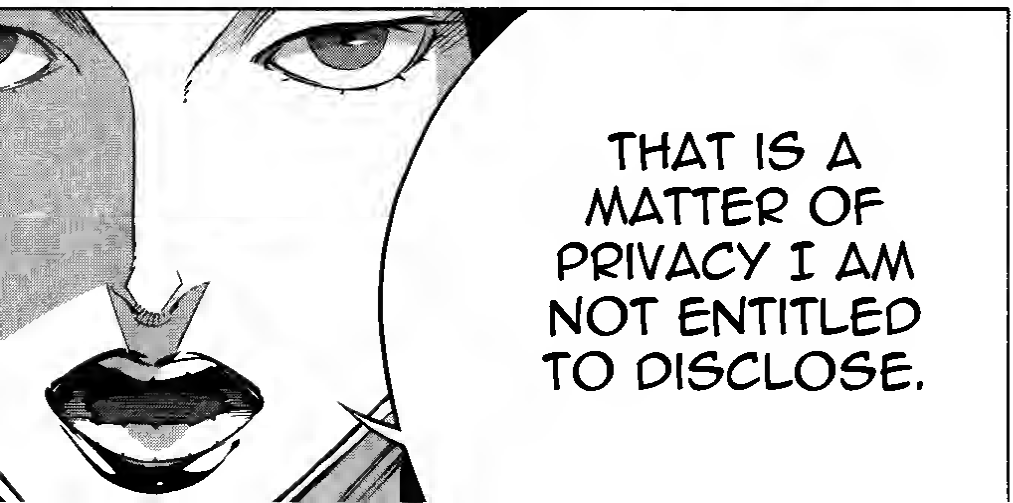

WHICH KIDS GET A GOODBYE PARTY AND WHICH DON'T?
ARE YOU ALSO REGULATING...


ON A SEPARATE NOTE...
...I HAVE MENTIONED IT BEFORE, BUT...
THERE ARE SOME CHILDREN WHO DECLINE THE PARTY DUE TO THEIR SHYNESS.
THERE ARE OCCASIONS WHERE THE NEW FAMILY DOES NOT HAVE TIME FOR A GOODBYE PARTY.

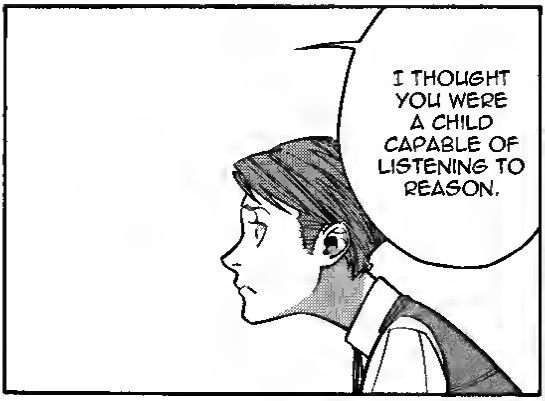

WHY DOES IT CONSIS-TENTLY HAPPEN...
TO ONE OUT OF EVERY THREE KIDS?

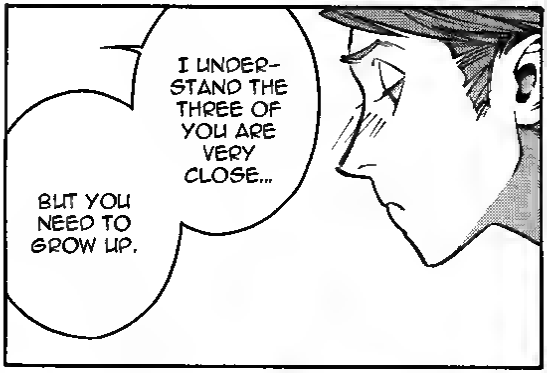

I WON'T SAY IT HAPPENS "CONSIS-TENTLY".
AND IF IT DOES THEN IT IS DUE TO COINCI-DENCE.


BUT WHAT ABOUT THE MORE SPECIFIC DETAILS ABOUT THESE "NEW FAMILIES"...


THAT IS A MATTER OF PRIVACY I AM NOT ENTITLED TO DISCLOSE.

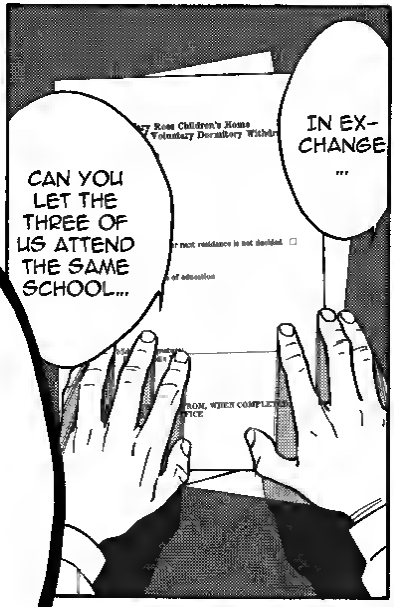
...IF THAT'S THE CASE THEN...
SISTER ...
OUR WORRIES HAVE NOT BEEN LESSENED ONE BIT.
WE WILL NOT ACCEPT THE TERMS OF THIS DISCUSSION.


I THOUGHT YOU WERE A CHILD CAPABLE OF LISTENING TO REASON.

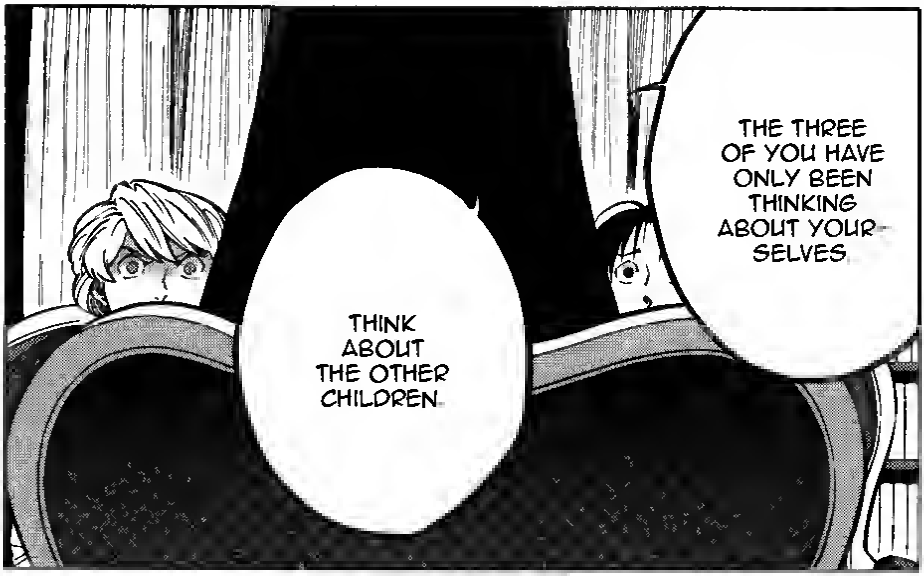

I UNDER-STAND THE THREE OF YOU ARE VERY CLOSE...
BUT YOU NEED TO GROW UP.

THAT IS A SHAME ...
SAMUEL

JUST WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?!

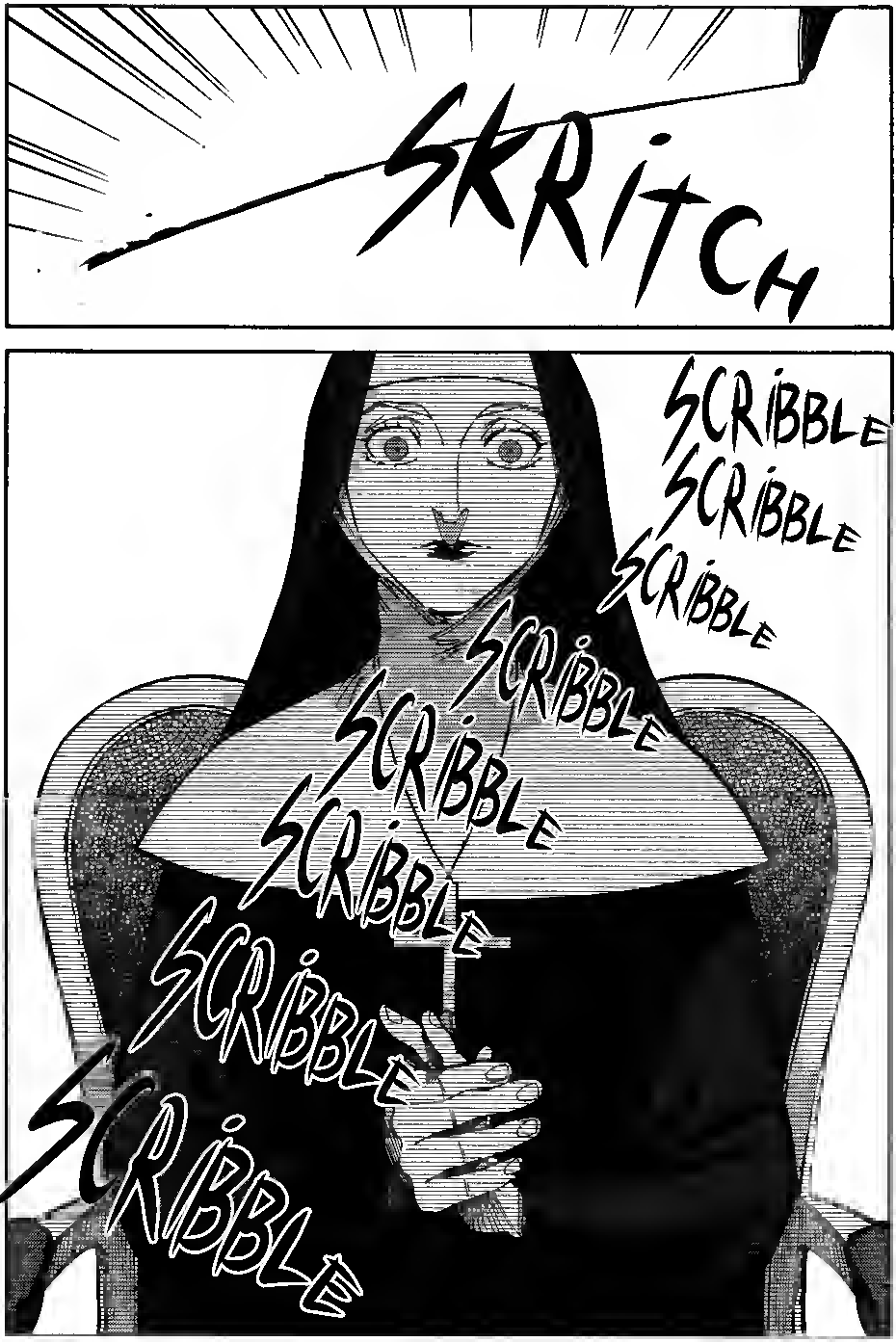

CAN YOU LET THE THREE OF US ATTEND THE SAME SCHOOL...
IN EX-CHANGE ...

I UNDER-STAND...
I WON'T ASK TO REMAIN HERE ANY LONGER.


THE THREE OF YOU HAVE ONLY BEEN THINKING ABOUT YOURSELVES.
THINK ABOUT THE OTHER CHILDREN.

YOU WILL NOT BE ABLE TO LIVE IN THIS WORLD...
IF YOU ARE NOT ABLE TO SHOW CONSIDERATION.
...
KEEP QUIET!
HOW DARE YOU...!
HAL!

SO IF WE JUST SIGN THE THING.
YOU'LL LET US RETURN TO OUR ROOMS, RIGHT?
HOW WISE SAMUEL.
IF YOU DON'T RETURN AND PREPARE FOR YOUR BATHS...
YOUR SLEEPING TIME WILL-
WAI... WAIT A MOMENT!
SAM! WHAT ARE YOU...?!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SCRIBBLE
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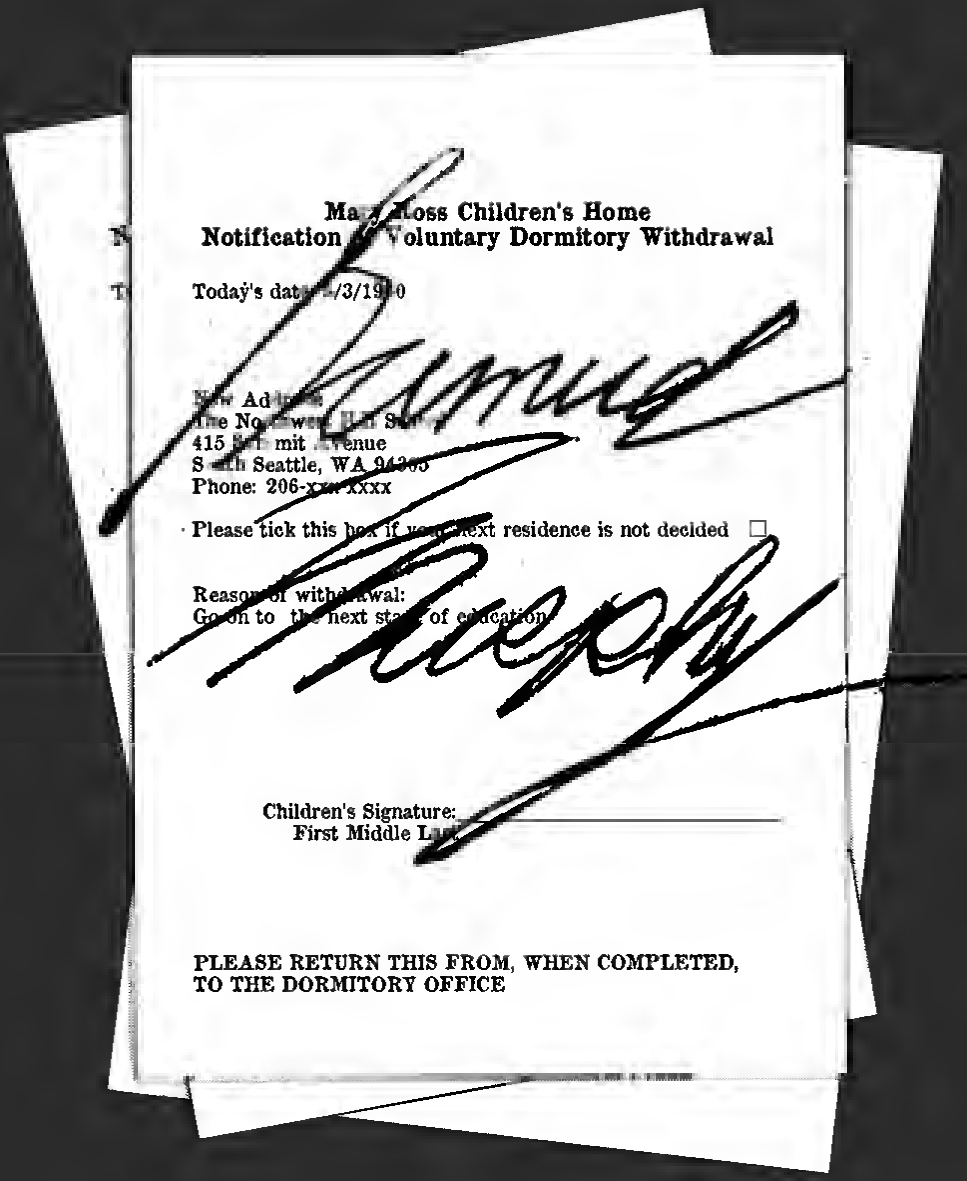


Ma[illegible]Ross Children's Home
Notification of Voluntary Dormitory Withdrawal

Today's dat[illegible]/3/1910

New Ad[illegible]
The No[illegible]west [illegible] Sch[illegible]
415 [illegible]mit Avenue
S[illegible]th Seattle, WA 9[illegible]
Phone: 206-xxx-xxxx

Please tick this box if your next residence is not decided ☐

Reason of withdrawal:
Go on to the next stage of education

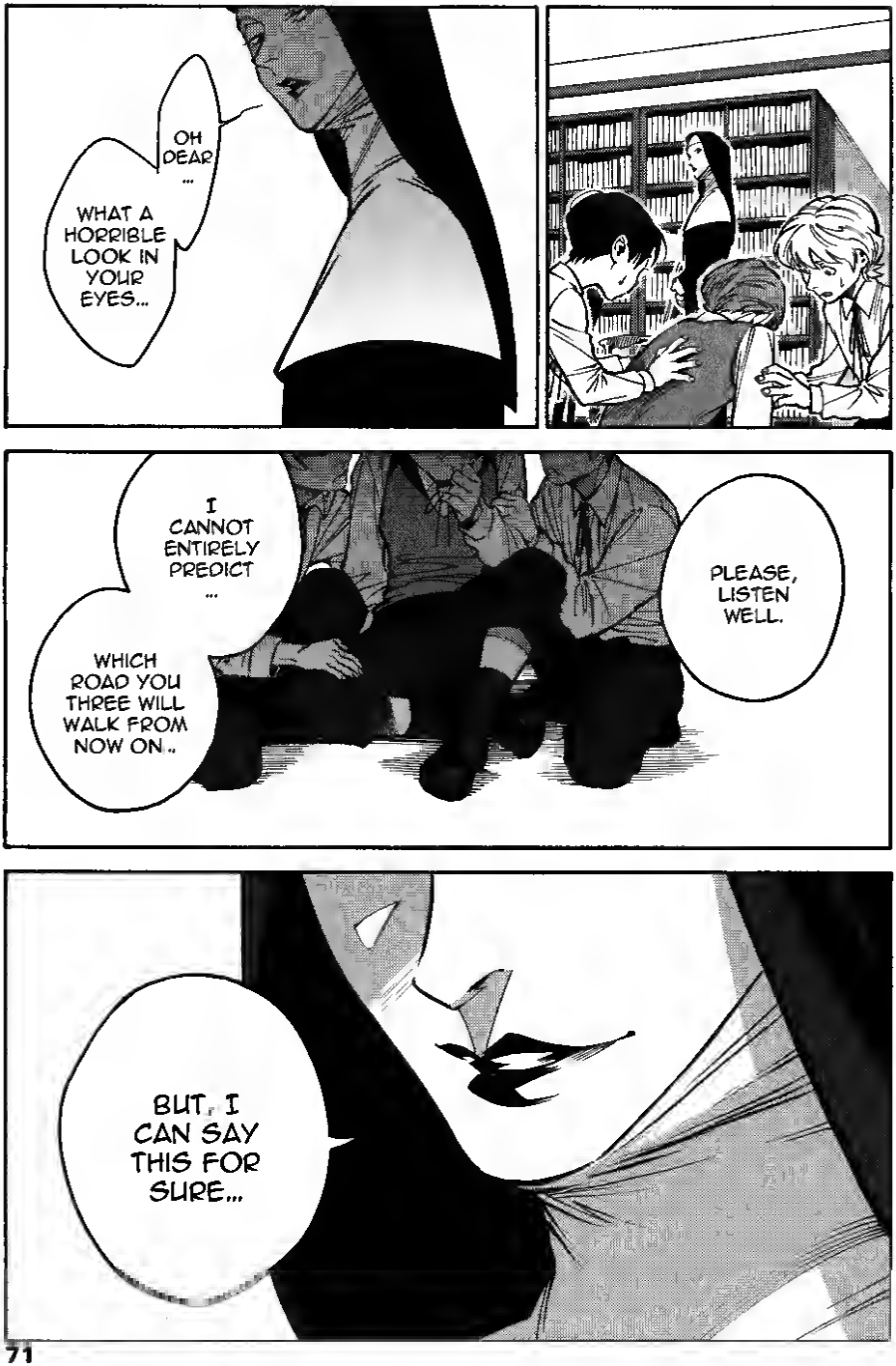
Children's Signature: _____
First Middle La[illegible]

PLEASE RETURN THIS FROM, WHEN COMPLETED, TO THE DORMITORY OFFICE

I'VE SIGNED THE PAPER AND WILL BE RETURNING TO MY ROOM.
HAL.
NOBU.
LET'S GO.
THUNK
OH
YEAH
YOU WAIT RIGHT THERE.

WHY WOULD YOU DO SUCH A DREADFUL THING?
...I SEE.
IT SEEMED OUR OPINIONS DID NOT MATCH.
.....
IN THAT CASE...
I NOW HAVE A REASON TO LAY MY HANDS ON YOU.

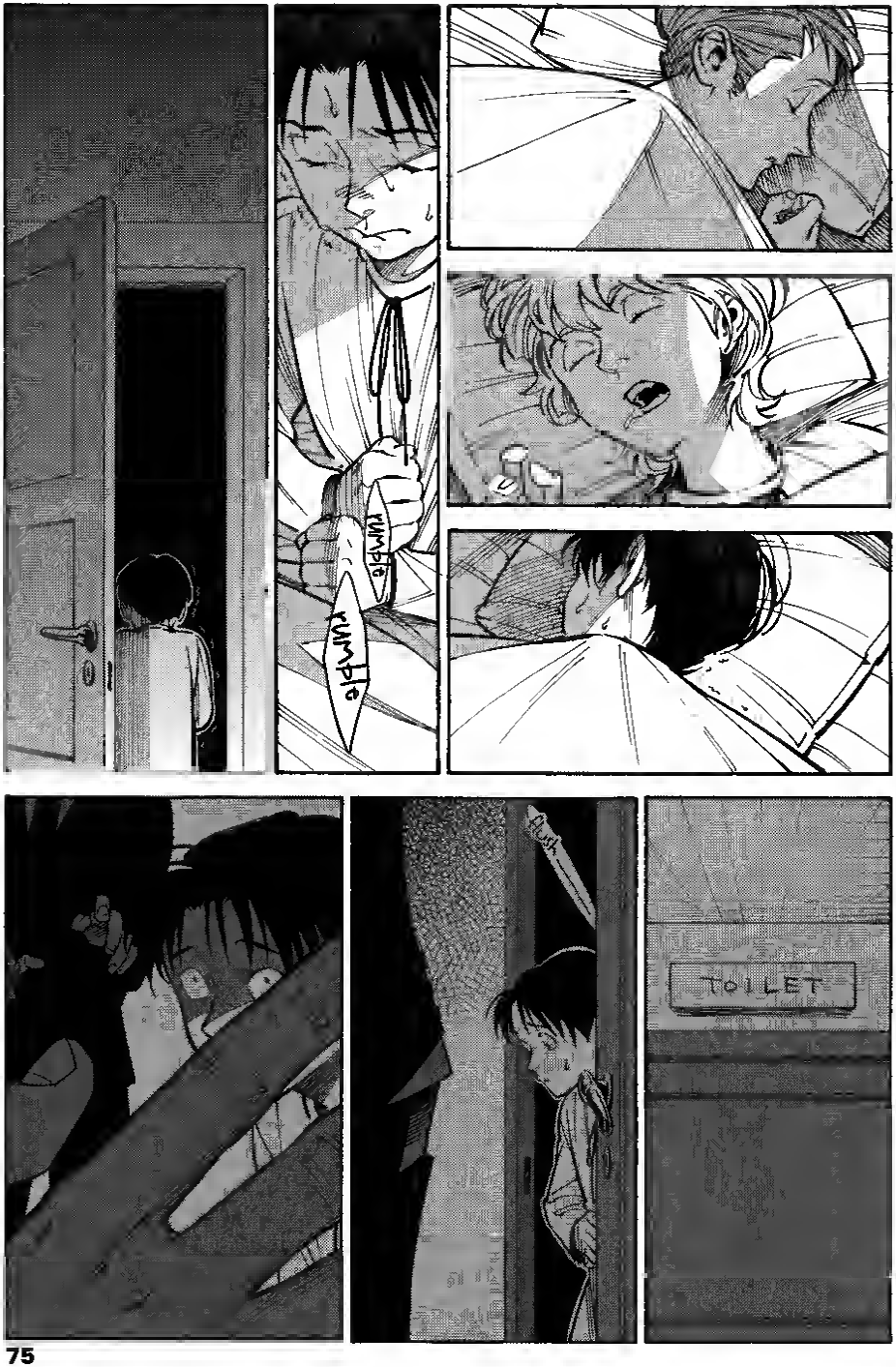
SLAP!
SAM!!
BANG!

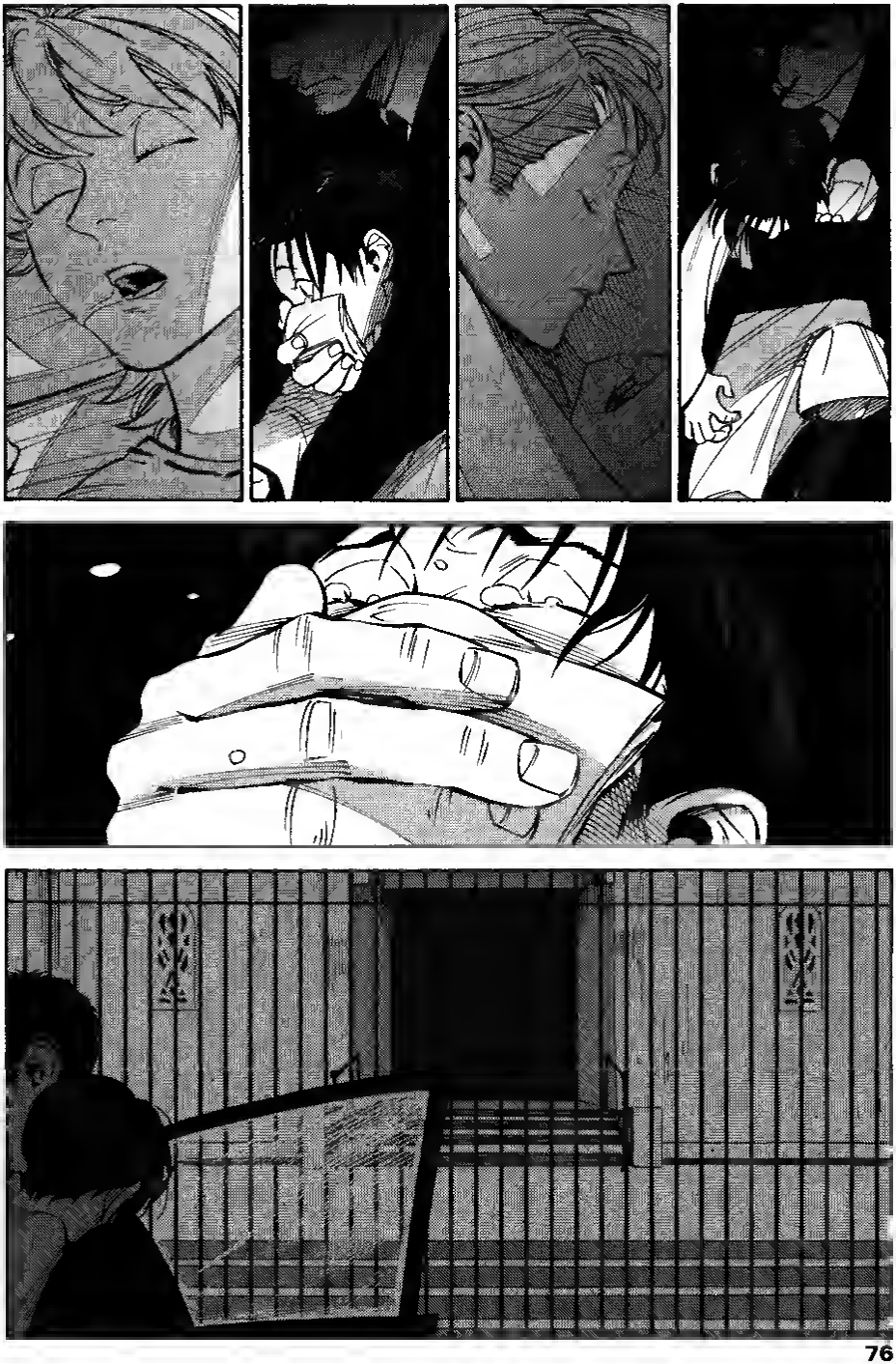

OH DEAR ...
WHAT A HORRIBLE LOOK IN YOUR EYES...
I CANNOT ENTIRELY PREDICT ...
WHICH ROAD YOU THREE WILL WALK FROM NOW ON..
PLEASE, LISTEN WELL.
BUT, I CAN SAY THIS FOR SURE...

YOU WILL NOT...
BECOME DECENT HUMANS.

SAM...
DOES IT HURT STILL?
I'M FINE.
.....
...HEY...
ONCE THE SUN RISES...

STAY TOGETHER FOREVER.
AND PRAY THAT THE THREE OF US CAN ALWAYS...
LET'S GO TO THE CHAPEL...
YEAH.
THEN... GOOD NIGHT.
YEAH ...
LET'S GO.
SEE YOU TOMO-RROW.


rumble
rumble
TOILET



I'M SURE IT'S BECAUSE IT WILL CAUSE HIM TO BE LONELIER THAN HE IS.
HE MUST HAVE A LOT OF FRIENDS HERE.
AHH, I SEE.
ARE YOU SURE YOU DON'T WANT TO SAY GOODBYE TO EVERY-ONE?
.....
.....
I'M SURE YOU'LL MAKE FRIENDS RIGHT AWAY.
HE WON'T BE LONELY FOR LONG
WE HAVE A CHEERFUL BUNCH OF KIDS LIVING IN THE DORMS.
BUT IT'LL BE OKAY.

WE SHOULD START HEADING OUT...

LEAVE THIS PLACE TOGE-THER...
THE THREE OF US WILL...
WHEN WE GROW UP...

UHH
...
UHH
...
U...
UHH.
UHHH
...

◆ CANIS -THE SPEAKER- #3／おわり ◆

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We'd really appreciate it.